

Franz T. Litz

Franz T. Litz is a Senior Associate with the Center for Climate Strategies, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping states and the nation tackle climate change. Franz is active in a number of CCS-facilitated state climate planning efforts, as well as the ongoing Western Climate Initiative, an effort by 6 western states and British Columbia to design and implement a flexible, market-based regional program to reduce emissions in the region.

Before joining CCS, Franz served four years as the Climate Change Policy Coordinator for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. In that capacity, he was the chief policy advisor on climate change issues to New York's Commissioner of Environmental Conservation and he headed the agency's executive-level climate change office.

While with New York, Franz chaired the group of state representatives that designed the Northeast Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), an effort by 10 eastern states to implement the first flexible, market-based cap-and-trade program for carbon dioxide in the United States. As chair, Franz was instrumental in bringing the states to consensus around RGGI decisions. In addition to facilitating the multi-state RGGI meetings, he served as the principal author of the Memorandum of Understanding that was executed by the Northeast governors in December 2005, and was a principal drafter of the RGGI model rule—the set of rules for the RGGI carbon trading program.

Franz is a member of the California Environmental Protection Agency's Market Advisory Committee that will make recommendations to implement California's landmark Global Warming Solutions Act (a.k.a. "AB32"). He is also a member of the Advisory Board of The Climate Group, a worldwide non-profit organization dedicated to spotlighting positive action on climate change by businesses and governments. Franz has participated in a number of climate change policy initiatives, including the Columbia University Earth Institute's Global Roundtable on Climate Change and the ongoing Center for Clean Air Policy's National Climate Change Dialogue. In early 2006, Franz was selected to study the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme as part of the European Union Visitor's Program.

Before beginning his active role in climate policy, Franz spent about 10 years practicing environmental and energy law. He is a graduate of Boston College Law School, *cum laude*, where he served as Executive Editor of the *Boston College Environmental Affairs Law Review*, and a graduate of Union College, *magna cum laude*.
